FOR YOUNG READERS

Pity the Idlers.

God pity the idlers, the rich and the poor,
The dull sluggish brain and the ice chilly heart
Of the world's stock of joy feel never a part.
For joy comes of labor of doing one's share
To lighten the burden of all the world's care.

Then hail to the workers, true kings of the earth,
The builders of worlds' creators of mirth.
Though they dig in the mine or delve in the soil,
Their sleep is more sweet, 'tis the fruit of their toil.
God pity the idlers, though rich or though poor,
No souls on the earth that need pity more.

—Samuel M. Jones.

Novel Trick for Dinner Table.

This is a simple little trick, by which a dime may be made to come

Starting the Coin on its Trip.

from under a glass tumbler without anybody's touching either the dime or the tumbler.

Place two half-dollars on the tablecloth—there must be a cloth, remember—about two inches apart, and between them place a dime. Then place a tumbler so that it will stand on the two half-dollars, with the dime immediately under it, as shown in the accompanying picture.

Now, to make the dime come from under the tumbler, all you have to do is to scratch the cloth with the nail of your forefinger, and it will gradually move in the direction you are scratching. The motion that you give to the cloth by scratching is imparted to the coin, and it will move a little at every scratch.

A Dog's Devotion.

The strong attachment of dogs to human beings is sufficient in itself to assure them a place in the household.

Mrs. Sarah Bolton, in her book on "The Dog," referring to the steadfast faithfulness of all kinds of dogs, from terrier to St. Bernard, mentions the case of one found by Leland Stanford, Jr., for whom the great university in California is a "memorial."

One day, when Leland was about 10 years old, he heard a great tumult in the street and darted out of the house.

He came back covered with dust, holding a homely yellow dog in his arms. Before his mother could reach him he had flown to the telephone and summoned the doctor. Thinking from the agonized tones of the boy that some of the family must be very ill, the doctor hastened to the house.

At first his professional dignity was belittled at being confronted with a dusty, excited boy holding a dirty mongrel with a broken leg. But the earnest, innocent face of the boy disarmed him, and he took the boy and the dog to a veterinary surgeon, who washed and dressed the dog's wounds and then turned him over to his new master.

The boy took care of the dog until it recovered, and it repaid him with a devotion that was touching.

When the boy died in Italy, his body was brought to the marble tomb in Palo Alto. The little yellow dog had been waiting his master's return from Europe. When he did not return, the dog knew that something was wrong and, after the body was placed in the tomb, lay down in front of the door and could not be coaxed away even for food. One morning they found him there dead, and buried him next to his protector and friend.

Questions for Boys and Girls.

If you are good at guessing or answering, here are a few questions you can wrestle with:

You can see any day a white horse, but did you ever see a white colt?

How many different kinds of trees grow in your neighborhood, and what are they good for?

Why does a horse eat grass backward and a cow forward?

Why does a hop vine wind one way and a bean vine the other?

Where should a chimney be the larger, at the top or bottom, and why?

How old must a grapevine be before it begins to bear?

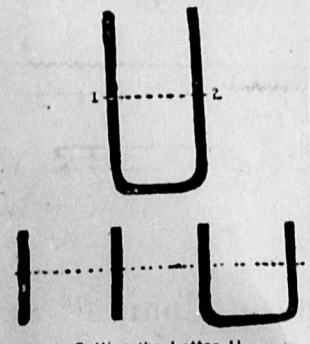
Can you tell why some leaves turn upside down just before a rain?

Can you tell why a horse when tethered with a rope always unravels it, while a cow always twists it into a kinky knot?

What wood will bear the greatest weight before breaking?

Seven Pieces of Letter U in Two Cuts

Draw a big letter U on cardboard or stiff paper, and then, with a sharp



Cutting the Letter U.

knife or scissors, cut it out. Laying it on the table, ask who can, in two cuts, divide it into seven pieces. That seems a difficult thing to do, doesn't it? But it is quite easy. The picture shows how you may do it. First, cut across from 1 to 2, which will divide it into three pieces. Then place the pieces side by side, and one cut where you see the dotted line will give you seven pieces.

A Poppy Pincushion.

All you require to make a poppy pincushion is a penny roll of red crinkled paper, a piece of black material, some sawdust and a yard of narrow green ribbon.

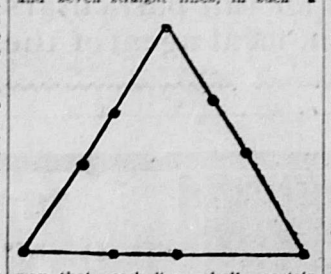
Cut the black material into a circle the size of a small saucer, run round the edge with some very strong black thread, about one-quarter inch from the outside; fill the center with sawdust, and draw the cotton up tightly so that it forms a little puddinglike pad, and fasten off the cotton firmly.

Next cut out some large poppy leaves out of the red paper and sew them round the black center, so that it resembles a flower. When you have got the leaves in position, make the back neat by sewing another piece of black stuff round the gathered up part, and then double the ribbon and sew the doubled end firmly to the back of the pad, tying the ends into a pretty bow just above the poppy to hang it up by.

Then gently press out the edge of each of the paper leaves and stick the center full of pins. You could, of course, have pink poppies, or yellow, or white poppies, but in the first case you would want a green centre, and in the others a yellow one, but green should be used in each case, since this represents the stalk.

Dot and Line Puzzle.

To the diagram below add five dots and seven straight lines, in such a



way that each line shall contain neither more nor less than four dots. Those who are unable to do it should glance at this page next week.

What China Sells Us.

If you are asked suddenly to say of what four articles China sends us the most, what would you say?

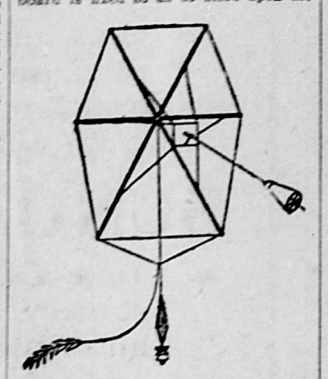
Tea probably would be the first thing of which you would think and for the second you would select silk. That would be correct. Silk and tea lead in exports.

But what would you name as the export third in order? You might guess for a good while before you reached the right thing—goat skins. And the fourth in order is mattings, another thing that is not what most persons would think of, although it seems natural enough when it is named.

Kite With a Parachute.

Here is a novel thing in the way of a kite with a parachute attachment. Some of our boys may improve upon it, but they must not infringe on the patent of the inventor. The illustration gives such a clear idea of the contrivance that the explanation may be brief.

A little cone-shaped affair of pasteboard is fixed so as to slide upon the



kite string. All that is necessary is to put the string through the cone, and, impelled by the same wind that holds aloft the kite, it runs rapidly up to the kite itself. It carries a keen-edged knife, which cuts the string holding the parachute, thereby releasing the latter.

Down falls the parachute, expanding as it descends, with the figure hanging from the horizontal bar below. The effect is precisely like that of a human being dropping with a parachute. It is great fun watching the figure as it makes its dive toward the earth from a great height.—Montreal Herald.

Conundrums.

What is the superlative of temper? Tempest.

What is man's opinion of bloomers? They are divided.

How do you keep food on an empty stomach? Bolt it down.

Why is a lawyer like a wine clerk? Because he is a bar-tender.

What is a waste (waist) of time? The middle of an hourglass.

What headlines prove the most sensational to women? Wrinkles.

Why is an egg dealer sure to succeed? Because he shows a good eggs-ample from egg-sell-ent motives.

What gives more milk than a cow? A milk cart.

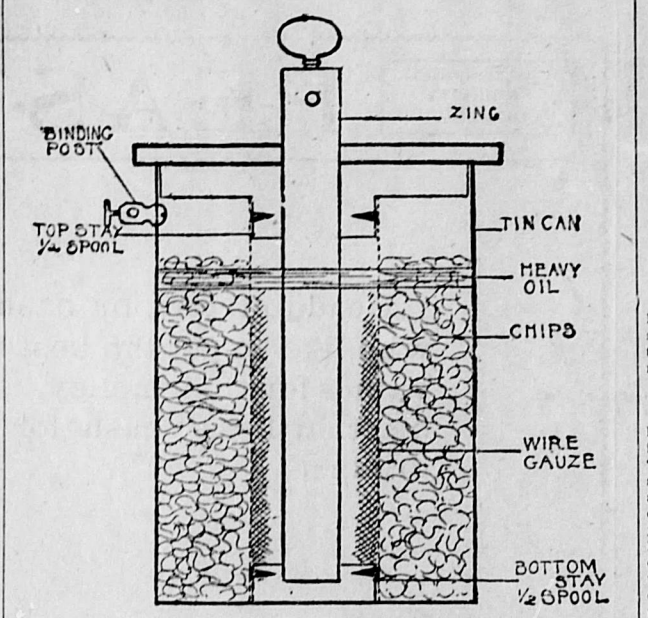
Speaking of milk, have you heard of the baby being brought up on elephant's milk? It was the elephant's baby.

What heavenly thing and what earthly thing does a rainy day most effect? The sun and your boots, takes the shine from both.

SIMPLE HOME-MADE BATTERY.

This storage battery does not cost much, is far superior to a storage cell for amateurs and can be made up of materials easily obtained in any household.

The materials required for this simple battery are as follows: A tin can, such as are used for canned vegetables; two pieces of wood, a little wire screening, a binding post and a common battery zinc, with a few carpet tacks.



Take your tin can and remove the entire top with a pocketknife, cutting it as near to the top edge as possible. Then procure a binding post, which can be bought for about 5 cents at any dealer in electrical supplies, where you can also get your zinc for eight cents.

Make a small hole, large enough to admit the screw of your binding post; insert the same and screw up tight, making sure to have the screw come in contact with the can.

Now, take a large spool and cut in halves, using one-half for the top and the other for the bottom stay for the zinc. These pieces should be dipped in melted candle grease. The top stay should be glued to a piece of wood, which constitutes the cover.

Cut your wire gauze to the required size, which will make a cylinder, which is to be tacked to the top and bottom stays. This is for the purpose of keeping the steel chips away from the zinc and avoiding short circuit. Care should be taken not to let the zinc touch the outer tin can.

The top and bottom stays should be either bored or burnt out with a red-hot iron, large enough to admit the zinc firmly and quite tight. You will see by the drawing that the zinc is at least a quarter of an inch above the bottom of the can.

The next thing required is steel chips, which can be obtained at any machine shop free of cost; they should be packed between the gauze cylinder and the outer tin can. The battery is then ready to be charged.

The fluid for this battery is caustic potash and should be mixed in the following proportions: Take one-half pound caustic potash and add one pint of water; put this into your battery and pour a little nondrying oil on top of the liquid and close up with cover.

These cells should be filled about three-quarters, and under no circumstances should they be placed so near as to touch each other, without some insulating material between them. The e. m. f. (electro-motive force) is about 1.5 volts.

Care should be taken in mixing the caustic potash, as it will burn anything it comes in contact with.

With the drawing any boy with a little spare time can construct one or more of these batteries for the small sum of 15 cents apiece.

AS THE WORLD REVOLVES

MRS. JAMES G. BLAINE IS DEAD.

Passes Away at Homestead in Augusta, Me., After a Lingering Illness.

Mrs. James G. Blaine, widow of the distinguished Republican statesman, died at the Blaine homestead at Augusta, Me., July 15. Mrs. Blaine was 76 years old. She came to the old family residence from Washington a short time ago. She was in an enfeebled condition and had been under almost constant medical attention since. During the last week she failed rapidly, her condition being due to a general breakdown of the system.

Mrs. Blaine's maiden name was Harriet Stanwood, and she was the daughter of a leading citizen of the state of Maine. She met her husband while both of them were teachers in a school in Kentucky. They were married at Pittsburg and later came to Augusta, where Mr. Blaine became editor of the Kennebec Journal.

Mrs. James G. Blaine.

She leaves one son, James G. Blaine, and two daughters, Mrs. Harriet Beale and Mrs. Walter Damrosch of New York, who were at her bedside during her last sickness.

SIR ROBERT BALL'S CAREER.

Famous Astronomer Has Always Been a Thorough Irishman.

Ireland's great astronomer, Sir Robert Ball, has just reached his sixty-third year. It is true that he has been astronomical professor at Cambridge for a decade, but he remains a thorough Irishman still. His career as an astronomer dates back to 1865, when, shortly after leaving Trinity college, Dublin, he was placed in charge of the famous private observatory established at Parsonstown, King's county, Ireland. When the possibility of signaling to Mars was under discussion he pointed out that if a flag of the size of Ireland was waved from a pole to match there was just the ghost of a chance that an astronomical Martian might perceive the ghost of a flutter on the earth.

DIPLOMATIC CHANCE LIKED.

Charles S. Francis, Named as Ambassador to Italy, Is Popular.

The announcement that Charles S. Francis, formerly United States minister to Greece, has been recommended as ambassador to Italy is greeted at his home, Troy, N. Y., with much approval. Minister Francis is popular, being owner of the Troy Times, and always having taken a keen interest in his native town. Mr. Francis also is well known as an athlete, still

CHARLES S. FRANCIS

holding the intercollegiate championship for single sculls, the record of two miles in 13:42¾ having been made at Saratoga in 1876.

Praises American Hospitality.

Baron Von Echt, an Austrian who has been traveling in this country, is in raptures over his treatment here. "I do not believe," he says, "that such hospitable treatment would be accorded a stranger in any other country in the world. I have sojourned in many lands, but in no other have I been received with such marked courtesy and open-hearted hospitality. My tour of the United States convinces me that the American people in many respects are superior to the inhabitants of all other lands."

Case for Legal Minds.

In Sioux county, Nebraska, a man holds the office of school director and likewise a trusteeship of the district school in a South Dakota county just across the state line. He claims to be entitled to both offices, and cannot be dispossessed of either. His house is built on the state line, and when he goes to bed his head is in one state and his feet in the other, so that he is legally a resident of both. He votes at the school elections held in both districts and claims that he is entitled to do so, and thus far no law has been found that can reach his case.

Rose from Messenger Boy.

Alfred H. Smith, the new general manager of the New York Central railway, began his career as a messenger boy in the Cleveland office of the Lake Shore, at a salary of $4 a week. He has since then been successively "gang" laborer, brakeman, conductor, telegraph operator, train dispatcher, division superintendent and general superintendent. He is 39 years old and is the youngest of five children.

IN THE CHAIR OF ST. PETER

Long List of Distinguished Churchmen Who Have Worn the Triple Tiara—Reign of Pope Pius IX the Longest in History.

Pope Leo XIII., the 263d successor of St. Peter, Joachim Pecci, was born at Carpineto in the diocese of Anagni on March 2, 1810; ordained priest on Dec. 31, 1837; consecrated Titular Archbishop of Damietta on Feb. 17, 1843; transferred to the see of Perugia on Jan. 19, 1846; proclaimed Cardinal on Dec. 19, 1853; elected Pope on Feb. 20, and crowned on March 3, 1878.

The history of the popes shows that of the long line 195 have been Italians; Syrians, 7; Greeks, 15; Africans, 3; Spaniards, 4; French, 14; Burgundians, 2; Germans, 6; Saxons, 2; Bavarians, 4; English, 1, and Belgian, 1. The nationality of the others is not well established.

The religious orders supplied about seventy popes to the throne. The Benedictines have given thirty; the Carthusians two; the Carmelites two; the Dominicans four, and the Augustinians and Franciscans many. Numerous popes were members of royal and noble families, but many poor men have reached the tiara also. St. Peter was a fisherman. Adrian IV., the only Englishman who held the throne, was the son of a woman who begged alms at the door of her parish church. Urban IV. was the son of a poor Frenchman. The parents of Celestine V. were in very humble circumstances. So were those of Benedict II., an Italian Dominican, and also those of Nicholas V. The father of Adrian VI. was a ship carpenter, of Sixtus V. a farm laborer and of Pius V. a shepherd.

Gregory XI., 1276, died within a few hours of his election; Stephanus II. was pope for only three days; Urban VII. for twelve; Boniface VI. for fifteen; Celestine IV. for seventeen; Sisinius, Theodorus II., Damasus II., Pius III. and Marcellus II. for twenty; Valentinus for thirty and Leo XI. for twenty-five.

Pope Hormisdas, who was elected in 524, was a widower when he entered holy orders. He had a son called Silverius who succeeded him as Pope in 537. Silverius was martyred and both father and son are venerated as saints. Victor III. had also been married before ascending the throne; and so had Clement IV. He had two daughters and when his wife died he became a Carthusian monk. There are two instances in which brothers succeeded each other. The first is that of Stephen III., elected in 752. He reigned five years and was succeeded by his brother Paul I. The latter was canonized. The other case is that of Benedict VIII., elected in 1012 and succeeded twelve years after by his brother John XX., who was pope for nearly ten years.

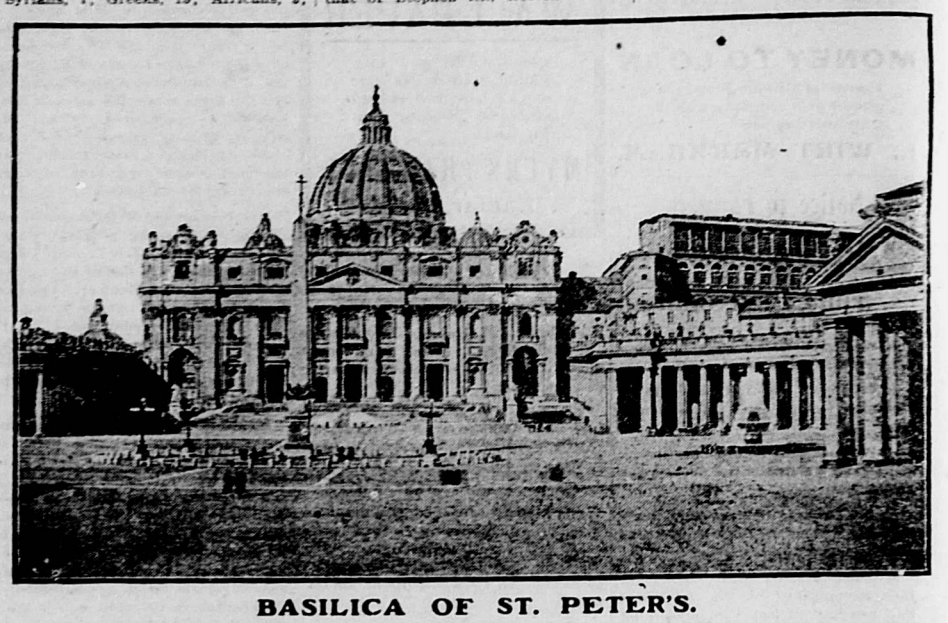
Benedict III., 855, was the first pope to assume the title "Vicar of St. Peter." In the thirteenth century, however, this was changed to the present style, "Vicar of Christ." The usage of kissing the cross on the pope's slipper, which still obtains, was introduced in 772 by Adrian I. The first pope to change his name on election was Sergius II., 844. John has been the name most frequently adopted. There have been 23 Johns, 13 Innocents, 14 Benedicts, 16 Gregories, 14 Clements, 13 Leos, 9 Piuses and 8 Alexanders. Pope Cletus, the third pope, adopted the salutation since used: "Salutem et Apostolicam Benedictionem"—health and apostolic benediction.

Clement V., 1305, was the first pope to remove his residence from Rome to Avignon. The exile lasted seventy years and for seven popes. The longest interregnum between the death of one pope and the coronation of his successor was three years, after the death of Clement IV., in 1270.

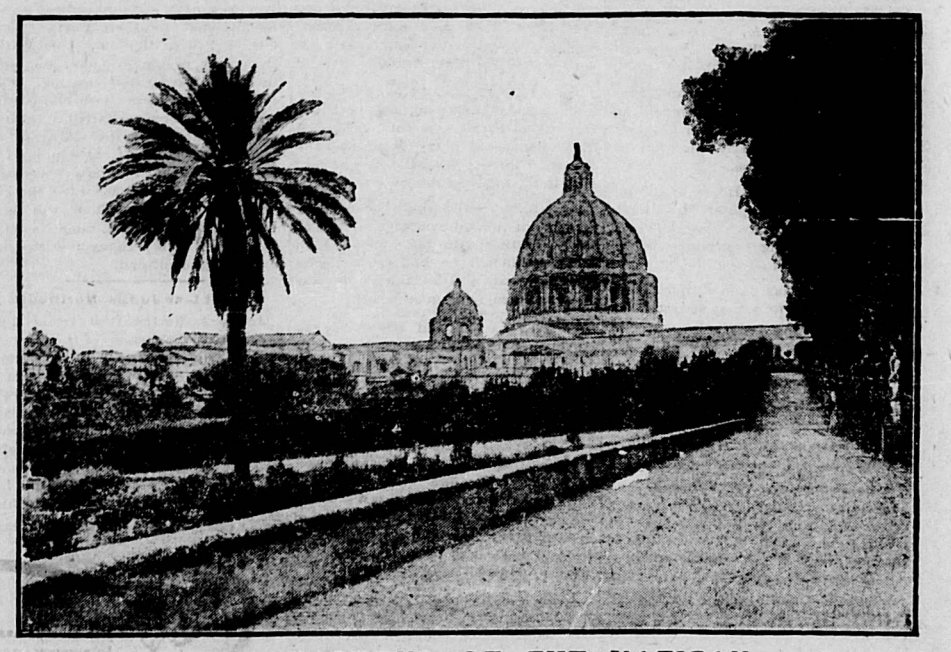
Pope Telesphorus, 142, ordained that Lent should begin on Septuagesima Sunday and Pope Gregory I., the Great, 590, introduced the ceremony of putting ashes on the head on Ash Wednesday. Linus, St. Peter's successor, prohibited women from entering a church with uncovered heads. Pope Vitalianus, about 659, introduced organs in churches. He is said to have been a talented musician. Pope Clement, 93, is believed to be the author of the canon of the mass.

Zephyrinus, 205, ordained that chalices should be made only of gold or silver, and Eusebius, 309, prohibited the use of any fabric but white linen for corporals—the covering of the chalice during mass. Marcellus, 304, introduced the rites of burial with lights and the chanting of psalms. John XXII., 1316, established the usage of ringing the "Angelus" bell. Melchiades prohibited fasting on Sunday. Anicetus introduced the clerical tonsure and Pelagius II., the sixty-fifth pope, established the law that all clerics shall recite the seven canonical hours, or "breviary," daily. Gregory IX. prescribed the little bell that rings at the time of the elevation of the host at the mass. Vigilius ordered that the words of the consecration of the mass should be said silently.

Gregory XI., who died in 1378, was the last French pope. Clement VII. excommunicated Henry VIII. of England for usurping the title, "Head of the Church." Alexander VI., the famous Borgia, whose reputation present day historians are rehabilitating, was pope when Columbus discovered America. Alexander III. abolished tilts and tournaments in Europe. Paul IV., 1555-59, instituted the "Index of Prohibited Books" and the tribunal of the Inquisition. His successor, Pius IV., established the "Montes Pietatis," or official pawnshops. Boniface V. granted the right of sanctuary to all persons flying for safety to a church.



BASILICA OF ST. PETER'S.



THE GARDENS OF THE VATICAN.

POPE'S POLICY ONE OF PEACE

Leo XIII. Had Marvelous Success in Creating Good Feeling.

Innominati in a letter from Rome to the New York Sun, written shortly before the death of Pope Leo, said:

"If there were congratulations for the unexpected longevity of Leo XIII., it was not merely because of the sympathy which his personality inspired in all, a sympathy remarkable from every point of view, nor was it on account of the interest in which we could not help having for an old man who was approaching his hundredth year. It was also, and above all, because of the impression, as confirmed by the events of a quarter of a century, that Leo XIII. was especially designed, thanks to his political and diplomatic gifts, to maintain tolerable relations between the church and the modern world, in spite of the opposition which broke out at every moment, and, if it had not been wisely kept in order would have brought about the most violent conflicts.

"The temperament of a peacemaker was especially necessary for the successor of Pius IX., whose character, hotheaded, and impetuous rather than staid and diplomatic, had perhaps emphasized the conflicts that everywhere existed between the church and the lay world. These conflicts were not only political and social; some were of an intellectual and moral nature, inasmuch as the modern spirit and that of the church asserted that they were divided by natural antagonism.

"Leo XIII.'s diplomacy consisted in substituting the method of patience and letting time work, for that of force and violence; in other words, the gradual establishment of peace wherever war was raging.

"If details are passed over, a general view of the world compared to what it was in 1878 will show that Pope Leo obtained more by means of his diplomacy than his predecessor did with his rather fiery ardor.

"The church of Rome under Leo XIII.'s pontificate succeeded in greatly improving the conditions of Catholics in non-Catholic communities, especially in Russia, in Great Britain, in the United States, and in other lands, too. But the chief result obtained in Catholic countries as well as the others has been that, without imposing on them any union, with any sort of politic system, Catholics have been led to withdraw from connection with forms of government whose fall might be deemed equivalent to the fall of the church itself.

"If in any field it seemed impossible for the most skillful diplomat to bring about agreement, it was in that of the relations between the Quirinal and Vatican. The time is not so far off when the Pope likened the King of Italy to Attica, and it seemed that no truce was possible between the two rival powers enthroned in Rome. Nevertheless, if Leo XIII. took no steps which might be looked upon as a formal renunciation of its claims by the holy see, his prudence created a condition of things that is almost equivalent to a modus vivendi, so uncommon have the occasions for conflict become between the Vatican and the Quirinal. As the latter, on its side, takes just as much pains to remove everything that might revive former hostilities, the holy see managed in the new condition of affairs to create for itself a position of which the festivities of the jubilee year have shown the importance."